

1 SJR163
2 131467-1
3 By Senators Whatley, Dial, Taylor, Beason, and Williams
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 01-JUN-11

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT THE GUARDIANS OF FREEDOM
9 ACT OF 2011.

10
11 WHEREAS, multitudes of brave National Guard and
12 Reserve members have been mobilized in the war on terrorism
13 and National Guard military personnel are quickly becoming a
14 major force in the Middle East and Afghanistan, as well as in
15 protecting the United States in homeland security roles; and

16 WHEREAS, similar to active-component military
17 personnel, National Guard members endure long deployments
18 overseas and have sacrificed life and limb for the protection
19 and security of our great nation; and

20 WHEREAS, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau is
21 not a party to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which is comprised
22 of the chiefs of staff of the four military services; and

23 WHEREAS, while the Joint Chiefs of Staff are focused
24 on wartime missions with limited familiarity with homeland
25 defense or Title 32 operations, the Chief of the National
26 Guard Bureau would bring a wealth of knowledge and experience

1 regarding homeland security to the collaborations of the Joint
2 Chiefs of Staff; and

3 WHEREAS, the Guardians of Freedom Act of 2011,
4 sponsored by Senator Jay Rockefeller in the U.S. Senate and by
5 Representative Nick Rahall in the U.S. House of
6 Representatives, would give the National Guard Bureau Chief
7 the same status as the other Joint Chiefs of Staff and would
8 enable him or her to vote on decisions that affect the
9 National Guard; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby urge Congress to
12 enact the Guardians of Freedom Act of 2011 to enhance the
13 roles and responsibilities of the Chief of the National Guard
14 Bureau by requiring the Chief to be a member of the Joint
15 Chiefs of Staff.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
17 resolution be made available for the President of the United
18 States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
19 Representatives, and the members of the Alabama Congressional
20 Delegation.